[26th January 1949

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) The Government have already increased the procurement price of foodgrains for 1948–49 taking into account the increase in the cost of other commodities as well as in the cost of cultivation which has taken place since last year. The recommendations made by the Krishnamachari Committee for the stabilization of prices at levels remunerative to the producer not only of foodcrops but of commercial crops also, have been examined but are held in abeyance in view of the reimposition of controls."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House that I have received the following message from the Hon. Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly, dated the 26th January 1949 :—

' In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Vexatious Litigation (Prevention) Bill, 1949 (L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1949), as passed by the Assembly on the 26th January 1949, and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council '."

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* MADRAS GOVERNMENT BUS TRANSPORT STRIKE.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have received notice of a motion for the adjournment of the business of the House from the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, Dr. V. K. John, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the present bus strike in the City of Madras. May I know whether the Government have anything to say on this? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The Government have no objection to the motion and it may be taken up at 4 p.m."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The Government have no objection. So I propose to take it up at 4–30 p.m. or earlier if the business on the agenda is finished before that time."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Rule 40 of the Council Rules says that the motion will be taken up at 4 p.m. the same day. The motion can be taken up at 4 p.m. and the discussion on it concluded at 5 p.m."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" There is the other rule that the Council shall ordinarily commence at 11 a.m. and on that assumption 4 p.m. is fixed as the hour for taking up an adjournment motion. But to-day the House met only at 3 p.m. Some time must be allowed for transacting the other business. So we will take up the motion at 4–30 p.m. or earlier if the two Bills on the agenda are disposed of before that time."